

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method and an apparatus for supporting error cause of network management system are for exchanging an error cause defined by a different standard between a manager and an agent, especially when a present error status cannot be defined by error causes defined by SNMP (Simple Network Management Protocol) standard. The SNMP agent receives an SNMP message from the manager under Get/SetRequest command, and analyzes the received SNMP message to compare and find out whether or not a normal execution is possible. If it turns out that the normal execution is possible, the SNMP agent executes an internal command, and transmits a response message thereof to the manager. However, if it turns out that the SNMP message is abnormal, the SNMP agent first compares and finds out whether the abnormal SNMP message can be represented by one of SNMP standard error causes. If the SNMP message can be represented by the SNMP standard error cause, the response message based on the SNMP standard error causes is transmitted to the manager. On the other hand, if it is impossible to express the SNMP message to the SNMP standard error cause, the SNMP agent transmits the response message using different standard error causes (TL1). Hence, the present invention can be advantageously used for preventing error occurrence for the second, third time due to ambiguous error causes, by expressing a status of an SNMP agent more accurately than the 20 error causes defined by SNMP V1/V2/V3.